



## An Overview of Scottish History and Records from 1800

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Scotland's history is one of pain and pride, struggle and steadfastness

### A Timeline of Scotland's History

1814 – Near the end of the first phase of Highland Clearances, was the "year of the burning" on the 1.5 million acre estates of the Countess of Sutherland, from which 15,000 people were cleared between 1811 and 1821.

1815-1850s – the second phase of the Highland Clearances, brought on, in part, by economic conditions.

Viola Root Cameron, *Emigrants from Scotland to America, 1774-1775 : copied from a loose bundle of treasury papers in the Public Records Office, London, England*

Lucille H. Campey, *After the Hector : the Scottish pioneers of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, 1773-1852*

David Dobson, *Ships from Scotland to America, 1628-1828*

Donald Whyte, *A dictionary of Scottish emigrants to Canada before Confederation*

1841 – The first census of genealogical value. The census is taken every ten years after that.

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[www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk)

1843 – The Disruption where 450 ministers and their congregations break away from the Church of Scotland over the issue of the Church's relationship with the State, to form the Free Church of Scotland.

1846 - The Highland Potato Famine caused by the potato blight begins and lasts approximately ten years. The Highlands and Western Isles did not suffer as much as Ireland.

1855 – On 1 January civil registration begins with the compulsory registration of all births, marriages, and deaths.

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1874 – Patronage is abolished in the Church of Scotland, changing how ministers are appointed to parishes.

1885 - Creation of the Scottish Office and later the Secretary of State for Scotland.

1929 - The Church of Scotland and the United Free Church of Scotland unite.

The United Free Church had its roots in The Disruption and break-offs previous to that.

1934 – The Scottish National Party is founded. The left-leaning party campaigns for Scottish independence from the United Kingdom.

1945 – The first Scottish National Party candidate is elected a member of Parliament.

1996 - The Stone of Scone, also known as the Stone of Destiny, is permanently returned to Scotland. The stone had been taken to England in 1296 and remained in London for 700 years before being returned to its rightful home in Scotland. It is presently housed in Edinburgh Castle.

1999 - A Scottish Parliament sits for the first time in 272 years.

2002 – ScotlandsPeople first launched by the Scottish government.

2004 - The new Scottish Parliament Building opens for legislative business.

2011 – The Scottish National Party gains an overall majority in the Scottish Parliament.

2014 – Referendum for Scottish Independence votes 55% to 45 % to remain a part of the United Kingdom.

2016 - The United Kingdom European Union membership referendum, commonly known as Brexit, where England votes to leave the European Union and Scotland overwhelmingly votes to remain a part of the EU.

2020 – Because of Brexit, there is now a narrow majority of Scots who support Scottish independence. This could very well happen in the next few years.